

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 SNM-05 NEAE-00 INR-10
INRE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 L-03 SP-02 /064 W
-----009116 031706Z /43
O 031421Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7785

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3540

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E. O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: EAID, PINT, AF
SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF US AID PROGRAMS IN AFGHANISTAN

REF: (A) STATE 11240 (B) KABUL 3512

1. SUBJECT TO THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS, AFTER MY FIRST ROUND OF CALLS ON THE NEW AFGHAN LEADERS WHERE I WOULD DESCRIBE U.S. POLICIES AND PROGRAMS (REF B), I WOULD MAINTAIN BUSINESS AS USUAL ON OUR PROGRAMS HERE (AID, PEACE CORPS, ICA, IMET, DEA). THAT IS TO SAY THAT WHEN AGREEMENTS ON AID AND PEACE CORPS PROJECTS, ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMET, FULBRIGHT OR OTHER GRANTEES, ETC., NEED TO BE COMPLETED, WE WOULD INFORM THE AFGHAN AUTHORITIES AND LEAVE IT TO THEM TO TELL US HOW THEY WISH TO PROCEED.

2. SPECIFICALLY, ON THE AID AND IMET PROGRAMS, IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO EXPLORE WHETHER THE AFGHANS WANT TO CONTINUE THESE PROGRAMS AND TO BE PREPARED TO CONTINUE THEM IF THE AFGHANS SO DESIRE. THESE PROGRAMS SUPPORT OUR MAJOR POLICY OBJECTIVES HERE OF ASSISTING AFGHAN DEVELOPMENT AND HELPING, IF THE AFGHANS DESIRE, THE AFGHANS TO MAINTAIN SOME DEGREE OF INDEPENDENCE FROM THE SOVIET UNION.

3. IN ANY CASE AT THIS EARLY AND DELICATE STAGE IN OUR RELATIONS
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WITH THE NEW REGIME, WE SHOULD MAINTAIN OUR FLEXIBILITY. IN THIS CONNECTION WE ARE TROUBLED BY THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 620 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT. WITH THE FACTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT NOW HAS ABOUT THE NEW REGIME, WOULD A WAIVER BE NECESSARY, AND, IF SO, CAN A CONSTRUCTIVE CASE BE DEVELOPED TO SUPPORT A WAIVER? WE THINK THAT THE THIRD CONDITION ("PROMOTING THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE RECIPIENT COUNTRY") IS GOING TO

BE EASIER TO SUPPORT THAN THE FIRST TWO ("VITAL TO US SECURITY"
AND "NOT CONTROLLED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY").
WHAT HAS BEEN THE DEPARTMENT'S PAST EXPERIENCE WITH CASES SUCH
AS YUGOSLAVIA?

4. THE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE IS
URGENTLY NEEDED. CERTAIN ON-
GOING AID PROGRAMS HERE CALL FOR PERIODIC SUB-AGREEMENTS AND
OTHER BILATERAL ACTIVITIES, AND A FEW IMET TRAINEES ARE NEARING
THEIR DEPARTURE DATES FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE U.S.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, AID RECIPIENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KABUL03540
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780188-1086
Format: TEL
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780598/aaaadfwd.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 193d23a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 78 STATE 11240, 78 KABUL 3512
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2807515
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTINUATION OF US AID PROGRAMS IN AFGHANISTAN
TAGS: EAID, PINT, AF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/193d23a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014